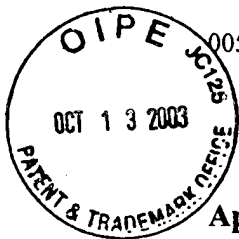


10-15-03



005092.00040

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Sparey-Taylor et al. **Paper No:**
Serial No.: 10/616,372 **Group Art Unit:**
Filed: July 9, 2003 **Examiner:**
Title: Fluid-Handling Apparatus and Methods

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

Dear Sir:

"Express Mail" Label No. EV322167345US

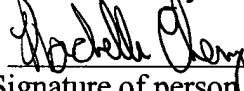
Date of Deposit: 13 October 2003

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Information Disclosure Statement (2pgs);
PTO 1449 Form (1pg);
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is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Rachelle Chery



Signature of person mailing paper or fee



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(005092.00040)

Applicants: Sparey-Taylor et al. Paper No:
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Filed: July 9, 2003 Examiner:
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 1.97, applicant herewith submits the publications and/or patents shown on the attached form PTO-1449, for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application.

REMARKS

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- X (1) within three (3) months of the **Filing Date** or before the mailing date of the **First Office Action** on the merits; or
- (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a **Final Rejection** or **Notice of Allowance**, and the requisite Certification or fee under Rule 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00**, is included herein; or
- (3) after the mailing date of a **Final Rejection** or **Notice of Allowance** but before the payment of the **Issue Fee**, and the requisite Certification, petition, and petition fee are included herein.

It is respectfully requested that each of the documents shown on the attached form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application. Copies of these documents (CHECK ONE):

X are enclosed herewith; or
____ are in the file of related application Serial No. 00/000,000, filed
_____, and are thus not being resubmitted herein.

Early examination and allowance of the present application are respectfully solicited.

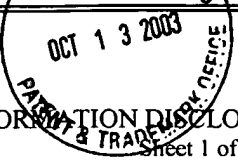
FEE AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this document to **Deposit Account No. 19-0733**. Any overpayments should be credited to same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter D. McDermott
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 29,411

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|--|----|--|------------|--|-------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|
| USPTO Form 1449 | |  | | U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office | | Attorney Docket No. 005092.00040 | | Serial No. 10/616,372 | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Sheet 1 of 1 | | | | | | Applicants: Sparey-Taylor et al. | | | |
| | | | | | | Filing Date: July 9, 2003 | | | Group: |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initial | | Patent No. | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date (if appropriate) | | |
| | AA | 6,210,128 | 04/03/2001 | Rife et al. | | | | | |
| | AB | | | | | | | | |
| | AC | | | | | | | | |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Initial | | Document No. | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Translation | | |
| | | | | | | | YES | NO | |
| | AD | WO 02/28532 A2 | 04/11/2002 | PCT | | | | | |
| | AE | | | | | | | | |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | | | |
| | AF | | | | | | | | |
| | AG | | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | |
| *EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.**Copies of references not provided at the time of this submission. | | | | | | | | | |